Division.	Value of free grants made during						Remarks.
	1888-89.			1889-90.			
	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	
Northern Division of Kánara ...	15,225	10	9	4,598	9	11	
Central Division of Kánara ...				6,148	12	5	
Southern Division of Kánara ...				4,439	11	4	
Belgaum	130	7	5	141	13	3	
Dhárwár...	.....			35	0	0	
Kolába	94	0	0	834	15	1	
Ratnágiri	.....			35	0	0	
Total ...	15,450	2	2	16,233	14	0	

CHAPTER VI.

GENERAL REMARKS.

FINANCIAL RESULTS.

122. The improvement in net revenue, anticipated in last year's report, has been realized, and will no doubt continue during the current year; but in order to fully develop the resources of the Supa-forests, it will be necessary to construct the bullock-tramway, from Shiróli to Halliál, unanimously recommended by the members of the Committee appointed by Government to consider the question.

HEALTH, &c., OF ESTABLISHMENTS.

123. The influenza epidemic caused an unusual amount of sickness, particularly in Kánara, and nearly all members of the executive and protective establishments suffered severely from it at a time when their services were most required. Sickness was also more prevalent than usual amongst the villagers who are employed by the Forest Department, and this, added to an outbreak of anthrax amongst the cattle employed by them, seriously affected the exploitation of timber in Kánara.

124. I am pleased to be able to report favourably on the work of the superior officers serving in the Southern Circle. Mr. H. Mitra, whose conduct during the previous year was not satisfactory, is reported to have done much better during the year under report.

125. The Divisional Officers have specially brought to my notice the good work done by the following officers:—

Forester Mahableshwar Nágapá, Range-Forest-Officer.

Forester Sheshgir Govind.

Forester Abdul Rauf, Range-Forest-Officer.

Belgaum Divisional Office Head-Clerk F. X. Saldanha.

Ranger Ganpat Rege.

Forester Hassan valad Mohidin, Range-Forest-Officer.

TOUR OF INSPECTION.

126. On the 1st April, I was at Poona on my way to Belgaum from Kolába, and on the 12th I arrived at Hemadge in the Belgaum District. From Hemadge I went to Anmod in the Northern Division of Kánara, and thence to Birchi and Jagalbet. From Jagalbet I passed through the reserves, extending along the Railway, which furnish fuel for the locomotives, to Nágargáli, which was reached on the 15th May, and on the 18th, I went into Head-Quarters for the rains.

127. On the 19th of November, I reached Bágalkot, in the Bijápúr District, where I met the Divisional Officer, and then went *viâ* Sirur to Bádámi. There I saw the results of some experiments in the planting-up of bare spaces on hill-tops and then proceeded to Gowankop and on the 10th to Nargund in the Dhárwár District. From Nargund, I marched *viâ* Annigeri, Hubli and Tadas, to Dundshi where I arrived on the 25th December. On January 4th, I arrived at Sanawalli on the borders of Kánara and Dhárwár, noting, as I passed through the forests, that the jungles between Sanawalli and Dundshi had already been swept by fire.

128. From Sanawalli I went to Sirsi, the Head-Quarters of the Southern Division of Kánara, *viâ* the Singanhalli-depôt, Pála and Yekumbi. At Sirsi I met the Divisional Officer, and proceeded on the 20th January to Sonda, and thence *viâ* Manchikeri to Yellápur. At Yellápur I met the Forest Settlement Officer and the Collector, and prepared, in conjunction with them, a draft of rules under section 31 of the Forest Act for the forests of Kánara.

129. Leaving Yellápur on the 28th January, I marched *viâ* Tátwhál, Bomanhalli and Virnoli to Amgám and Shiroli, meeting there Messrs. Oliver and Bell, the Assistant Conservators engaged in the organization of the tracts to be traversed by the proposed forest-railway. I then proceeded *viâ* Joida, Kumbárvádá, Jaláli, and Kadrá to Kárwár, where I met the Divisional Officer of the Northern Division of Kánara, and then marched to Samjoida and Dudhmálá, where I arrived on the 25th of March.

130. On my tour in the above-ghát tracts west of the Sirsi-Yellápúr road, I noted the destruction of forests caused by the cutting of *ráb* for *supári*-gardens. I also noticed that *supári*-gardens were being largely extended by the conversion of rice lands. This extension of garden-lands is a very serious matter, as the people already complain that the area allotted for *ráb* is insufficient for the requirements of existing gardens, and sooner or later great pressure will be brought to bear on Government to allot fresh *ráb*-lands from the remnants of the forest not already given up. I also observed numerous cases in which forests not allotted for *ráb*, and reserved trees in *ráb*-allotments had been lopped and even pollarded. The offenders have been let-off with the payment of nominal sums as compensation, but are to be prosecuted for repeated offences.

131. Rules under the Forest Act for the lopping of trees on *ráb*-lands were submitted to, and, with some modification, have been approved by, Government. The owners of garden-lands are extremely reckless in the treatment of *ráb*-forests. If the rules now sanctioned can be enforced, devastation of *ráb*-forests may perhaps be arrested.

J. L. L. MacGREGOR,
Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle.

Conservator's Office, Southern Circle:
Belgaum, 18th October 1890.

LIST OF STATEMENTS ACCOMPANYING THE FOREST ADMINISTRATION REPORT OF THE CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS, SOUTHERN CIRCLE, FOR 1889-90.

Form No. 49	Area of Reserved Forests, 1889-90.
„ „ 49A	Area of Protected Forests, 1889-90.
„ „ 50	Prosecution for breaches of Forest Rules during 1889-90.
„ „ 51	Area of Forest tracts protected from fire during the dry season of 1890.
„ „ 52	Area of Plantations, 1889-90.
„ „ 54	Outturn of Timber and Fuel, 1889-90.
„ „ 55	Outturn of minor Forest Produce, 1889-90.
„ „ 56	Account of Timber and other Produce cut or collected by Government agency and brought to Sale Depôts or sold locally during the year 1889-90.
„ „ 57	Abstract showing the value of Timber and other Produce at Sale Depôts for the year 1889-90.
„ „ 57A	Abstract showing the value of Dead-stock for the year 1889-90.
„ „ 58	Summary of Revenue and Expenditure of the different Divisions during the year 1889-90.
„ „ 59	Account Current for the year 1889-90.
„ „ 60	Revenue received and Outstandings on account of Revenue during 1889-90.
„ „ 61	Outstandings and Liabilities on account of Contractors and Disbursers for 1889-90.
„ „ 62	Financial Results of the year 1889-90.

J. L. L. MacGREGOR,
Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle.

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